GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:221
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2006
AGREEMENT WITH SRI LANKA ON WATER MANAGEMENT
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Krishnadas Shri N.N.;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed any agreement with International Water Management Institute of Colombo on Water Management;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which both the countries are likely to be benefited as a result thereof;

(c) the time by which such agreement will be implemented;

(d) whether there is any working methodology with the Ministry on water management; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ)

(a) to (e) A Memorandum of Agreement between Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the International Water Management Institute (an International Centre under the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research), Colombo was signed at New Delhi on 25th November, 1996 with the common objectives to improve irrigated agriculture production through scientific water management technologies by way of collaboration in research and training.

Each year, a workplan is developed and agreed to for implementation. The workplan for 2006-07 includes following areas for mutual cooperation.

Multiple water use systems for smallholder farmers

Understanding and improving water productivity

Watershed management and water institutions

Safe and sustainable use of low quality waters

Drought assessment and management

Potential of rainfed agriculture

Knowledge sharing and management

Under the Agreement, a Steering Committee consisting of representatives of International Water Management Institute, Colombo and Government of India is in existence to work out practical details for effective implementation of the mutual cooperation.